

Amendment to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended) An imaging system comprising:

an acquisition workstation comprising:

means for acquiring an echographic image and generating a digital image formed by a three-dimensional matrix from echographic sectional planes of said echographic image;

means for transmitting [portions] a two dimensional section of said digital image to a diagnostic workstation in response to manipulation of a probe disposed at the diagnostic workstation, said diagnostic workstation disposed remotely from [said] a subject;

said diagnostic workstation comprising:

said probe and means for referencing positions on a dummy;

echographic display means connected to the means for referencing positions;

means for performing a virtual echographic examination of said digital image with said probe to select any two-dimensional sectional plan from said digital image;

means for expert assessment including a module for permitting the transfer of audio and visual content between the acquisition workstation and the diagnostic station; and

means for transmitting control data between said acquisition workstation and said diagnostic workstation, said control data allowing a user to select, on each workstation, a sectional plan to be visualized.

Claim 2 (previously presented) A workstation comprising:

means for acquisition of a three-dimensional image;

means for processing said three-dimensional image in the system according to Claim 1,

wherein said acquisition workstation comprises:

means for communicating with the diagnostic workstation to display at the same time on the screen of said diagnostic workstation and on the display of said acquisition workstation sectional planes selected by the expert performing in real time a virtual echographic probe from the three-dimensional matrix available on the acquisition and diagnostic workstations, said means transmitting from one workstation to another station only said control data allowing for selection of the sectional plane to be visualized; and

means for recording said control data and again performing an examination.

Claim 3 (original) The workstation for the acquisition and processing of a three-dimensional image according to Claim 2, comprising:

central unit,

display screen,

high-definition digitalization card enabling acquisition of an echograph video signal,

a three-dimensional position sensor giving spatial positions of the echographic probe,

videoconference means integrating an electronic card and a two-way video input, a color camera, a microphone and a headset,

means for connecting to a communication network and an echograph, and

means for temporarily storing data acquired from the echograph until transmitted to a selected recipient then exploited in the videoconference.

Claim 4 (previously presented) A workstation for implementation of the system according to Claim 1, adapted to receive a file for expert assessment, performance of a virtual echographic examination, transmission of an electronic report and hosting a session of receiving expert assessment combining videoconference and remote manipulation of the three-dimensional matrix.

Claim 5 (previously presented) The workstation according to Claim 4, comprising a central unit, a screen, a three-dimensional position sensor giving spatial positions of a virtual echographic probe, a videoconference kit combining an electronic card and a two-way video input, a color camera, a microphone and a headset, and a color ink-jet printer.

Claim 6 (canceled)

Claim 7 (original) A workstation comprising:

means for acquisition of a three-dimensional image;

means for processing said three-dimensional image in a system according to Claim 1; and

means for linking multiple physical devices.

Claim 8 (original) The workstation according to Claim 2, which comprises:

central unit,

display screen connected to the central unit,

high-definition digitalization card enabling acquisition of an echograph video signal associated with the central unit,

a three-dimensional position sensor giving spatial positions of the echographic probe

associated with the central unit,

videoconference means integrating an electronic card and a two-way video input, a color camera, a microphone and a headset,

means for connecting to a communication network and an echograph, and

means for temporarily storing data acquired from the echograph until such data is transmitted to an expert present in a videoconference.

Claims 9 and 10 (canceled)

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means for transmitting [portions] a two dimensional section of said digital image to a diagnostic workstation in response to manipulation of a probe disposed at the diagnostic workstation, said diagnostic workstation disposed remotely from [said] a subject;

said diagnostic workstation comprising:

said probe and means for referencing positions on a dummy;

echographic display means connected to the means for referencing positions;

means for performing a virtual echographic examination of said digital image with said probe to select any two-dimensional sectional plan from said digital image;

means for expert assessment including a module for permitting the transfer of audio and visual content between the acquisition workstation and the diagnostic station; and

means for transmitting control data between said acquisition workstation and said diagnostic workstation, said control data allowing a user to select, on each workstation, a sectional plan to be visualized.

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wherein said acquisition_workstation comprises:

means for communicating with the diagnostic workstation to display at the same time
on the screen of said diagnostic workstation and on the display of said acquisition_workstation
sectional planes selected by the expert performing in real time a virtual echographic probe from the
three-dimensional matrix available on the acquisition and diagnostic workstations, said means
transmitting from one workstation to another station only said control data allowing for selection of
the sectional plane to be visualized; and

means for recording said control data and again performing an examination.

Claim 3 (original) The workstation for the acquisition and processing of a three-dimensional image
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a three-dimensional position sensor giving spatial positions of the echographic probe,
videoconference means integrating an electronic card and a two-way video input, a color
camera, a microphone and a headset,
means for connecting to a communication network and an echograph, and
means for temporarily storing data acquired from the echograph until transmitted to a selected
recipient then exploited in the videoconference.

Claim 4 (previously presented) A workstation for implementation of the system according to Claim 1, adapted to receive a file for expert assessment, performance of a virtual echographic examination, transmission of an electronic report and hosting a session of receiving expert assessment combining videoconference and remote manipulation of the three-dimensional matrix.

Claim 5 (previously presented) The workstation according to Claim 4, comprising a central unit, a screen, a three-dimensional position sensor giving spatial positions of a virtual echographic probe, a videoconference kit combining an electronic card and a two-way video input, a color camera, a microphone and a headset, and a color ink-jet printer.

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Claim 7 (original) A workstation comprising:

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means for linking multiple physical devices.

Claim 8 (original) The workstation according to Claim 2, which comprises:

central unit,

display screen connected to the central unit,

high-definition digitalization card enabling acquisition of an echograph video signal associated with the central unit,

a three-dimensional position sensor giving spatial positions of the echographic probe

associated with the central unit,

videoconference means integrating an electronic card and a two-way video input, a color camera, a microphone and a headset,

means for connecting to a communication network and an echograph, and

means for temporarily storing data acquired from the echograph until such data is transmitted to an expert present in a videoconference.

Claims 9 and 10 (canceled)

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